

Senate File 2042 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2042

BY MATHIS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the instructional support program by
2 making appropriations for instructional support state aid,
3 establishing an instructional support grant program, and
4 including effective date provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM FUNDING.

2 1. Notwithstanding the standing appropriation in section
3 257.20, subsection 2, and the allocation provisions in section
4 257.20, subsection 3, and as the result of the reduction to
5 area education agency funding under section 257.35, subsection
6 14, the amount appropriated from the general fund of the state
7 pursuant to section 257.20 for instructional support state aid
8 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June
9 30, 2021, shall not exceed ten million five hundred thousand
10 dollars and shall be allocated as provided in section 257.20,
11 subsections 1 and 2.

12 2. a. As the result of the reduction to area education
13 agency funding under section 257.35, subsection 14, there
14 is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the
15 department of education four million five hundred thousand
16 dollars to be used to provide instructional support grants
17 under this subsection to school districts to supplement funding
18 for each qualifying school district's instructional support
19 program.

20 b. The department of education, after consulting with
21 appropriate education stakeholders, shall establish an
22 instructional support grant program to provide for the
23 allocation of amounts appropriated under paragraph "a" in the
24 form of competitive grants, not to exceed two hundred thousand
25 dollars per grant, to school districts meeting the following
26 criteria and additional relevant criteria prescribed by the
27 department:

28 (1) A school district with a district assessed valuation per
29 pupil determined under section 257.20, subsection 1, that is
30 less than the state assessed valuation per pupil.

31 (2) A school district with a demonstrated need for critical
32 school-based student behavioral and mental health services,
33 teacher mental health services and training, or both.

34 (3) A school district for which the total amount certified
35 by the school board under section 257.19 to be raised by

1 property tax, income surtax, or a combination thereof, for both
2 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and the fiscal year
3 beginning July 1, 2020, is the maximum permissible amount under
4 that section.

5 c. Grant amounts received under this subsection shall be
6 expended exclusively for school-based student behavioral and
7 mental health services and teacher mental health services and
8 training. Grant amounts received shall not be used as, or in
9 a manner which has the effect of, supplanting existing funds
10 or funds received under subsection 1 of this section. Grant
11 amounts under this subsection shall be considered miscellaneous
12 income for purposes of section 257.7 and shall not affect
13 amounts eligible to be raised by the school district under
14 section 257.19.

15 d. There is established in the state treasury an
16 instructional support program grant account that is under the
17 control of and administered by the department of education.
18 The department may accept gifts, grants, bequests, and other
19 private contributions, as well as state or federal funds,
20 and shall deposit the moneys in the account to be used for
21 distribution as grant award moneys under the program. Moneys
22 in the account are appropriated and may be used for the
23 purposes of this subsection. Amounts appropriated under this
24 subsection and any interest earned on such amounts that are not
25 expended by June 30, 2021, shall revert to the general fund as
26 provided under section 8.33.

27 Sec. 2. EMERGENCY RULES. The department of education
28 may adopt emergency rules under section 17A.4, subsection 3,
29 and section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph "b", to implement
30 the provisions of this Act, and the rules shall be effective
31 immediately upon filing unless a later date is specified in the
32 rules. Any rules adopted in accordance with this section shall
33 also be published as a notice of intended action as provided
34 in section 17A.4.

35 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate

1 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

2 EXPLANATION

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 This bill relates to the instructional support program by
6 making appropriations for instructional support state aid and
7 establishing an instructional support grant program.

8 The bill provides that notwithstanding the standing
9 appropriation for instructional support state aid in Code
10 section 257.20(2) and provisions governing allocation of
11 alternative appropriation of funds in Code section 257.20(3),
12 and as the result of the reduction to area education agency
13 funding for FY 2019-2020, the amount appropriated from the
14 general fund of the state for instructional support state aid
15 for FY 2020-2021 shall not exceed \$10.5 million and shall be
16 allocated as provided in Code section 257.20(1) and (2).

17 The bill also provides that as the result of the reduction
18 to area education agency funding for FY 2019-2020, there
19 is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the
20 department of education \$4.5 million to be used to provide
21 instructional support grants. The department of education,
22 after consulting with appropriate education stakeholders, is
23 required to establish an instructional support grant program
24 to provide for the allocation of amounts appropriated in the
25 bill in the form of competitive grants, not to exceed \$200,000
26 per grant, to school districts meeting specified criteria and
27 additional relevant criteria prescribed by the department.
28 Grant amounts received shall be expended exclusively for
29 school-based student behavioral and mental health services and
30 teacher mental health services and training.

31 The bill authorizes the department of education to adopt
32 emergency rules to implement the provisions of the bill.

33 The bill takes effect upon enactment.